

**JOINT MINISTERIAL TASK AND FINISH GROUP ON A WHOLE SCHOOL
APPROACH TO EMOTIONAL WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH**

**FIRST MEETING 17 OCTOBER 2018,
CONFERENCE ROOMS C&D, FIRST FLOOR TY HYWEL**

Item 1: Attendees and Welcomes

Present	
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services	Vaughan Gething (CSHSS)
Cabinet Secretary for Education	Kirsty Williams (CSE)
Chair Children, Young People and Education Committee	Lynne Neagle AM (LN)
NHS Lead Chief Executive for Mental Health	Carol Shillabeer (CS)
Public Health Wales Director of Health Improvement	Dr Julie Bishop (JB)
Association Directors of Education Wales	Aled Evans (AE)
Secondary Head-teacher (Lewis Boys School)	Chris Parry (CP)
Primary Deputy Head-teacher (Vale of Glamorgan school)	Emma Harris (EH)
WG Director Mental Health, Corporate Services and Governance	Joanna Jordan (JJ)
WG Director of Education	Steve Davies (SD)
WG Director of Social Services and Integration	Albert Heaney (AH)
WG Director Communities & Tackling Poverty	Jo-Anne Daniels (JD)
WG SMO (mental health)	Dr Liz Davies (LD)
Estyn	Mark Champion (MC)
Regional Education Consortia	Debbie Hartevelde (DH)
DECIPHer (schools health research network)	Prof Simon Murphy (SM)
Children’s Commissioner for Wales office	Rachel Thomas (RT)
WG SMO (child and maternal health)	Dr Heather Payne (HP)
LHB Vice Chair representative	Kate Evans (KE)
WG Deputy Director, Support for Learners Division	Ruth Conway (RC)
Secretariat supporting meeting	Jason Pollard (JP) Clare van Bohemen Hunter (CvBH)
Apologies	
CMO Adviser on Child and Adolescent Psychiatry	Dr Dave Williams
Chief Nursing Officer representative	Sue Beacock
Association Directors of Social Services, Heads of Children’s Services	Sally Jenkins

CSHSS opened meeting 09:35am.

CSHSS and CSE summarised the background to the meeting and importance of what the group is trying to achieve.

Item 2: Group Terms of Reference (ToR)

CSE invited thoughts from the Group on the ToR.

Discussion around ensuring the linkup with other programmes (specifically Together for Children and Young People (TfCYP)) is explicitly drawn out and that more emphasis is placed on children and young people's involvement with the programme's work.

LN noted reference to Mind Over Matter not strictly correct and suggested alternate wording. LN also suggested the presence of a psychologist on the Group and queried the references to physical health in the ToR, emphasising that it was important to keep the Group's focus on mental health.

AH noted that the Ministerial Advisory Group on Improving Outcomes chaired by the Minister for Children was relevant to the work of this group and should be consulted and worked with.

Discussion was had regarding the importance of working together and building skills for agencies to work together. The importance of all parties building a shared language with agreed meanings was noted.

CSHSS affirmed that the primary purpose of the group was mental health and that the references to physical health relate to the link between physical and mental health.

DH highlighted the importance of having clear principles as schools need to clearly see how they are involved, and suggested the inclusion of a point about building capacity.

The Group discussed whether the first section of the ToR should be reorganized to have a clearer remit and scope, and whether it needed a mission statement.

Further discussion of the Group's membership. Suggested additions from social services and WLGA.

The Group discussed the terminology around mental health/mental wellbeing and agreed that the phrase used in the ToR, 'emotional wellbeing and mental health', was the preferred option.

Action 1: Redraft the ToR, making the following changes

- **Strengthen statement about children and young people to read 'children and young people will have the opportunity to inform, develop and shape activity'.**
- **Change the last sentence of the ToR to read 'In taking activity forward the Group will take account of wider activity, including specifically the NHS-led Together for Children and Young People programme'.**
- **Change reference to Mind Over Matter to read 'the Mind Over Matter report highlights the need for a 'step-change' in the support**
- **Add bullet point on multi-agency working skills to the principles section.**
- **Add bullet point on building capacity to the principles section.**

Action 2: Review group's membership to include a psychologist.

Action 3: CSHSS to contact Huw David to discuss inclusion of WLGA on group.

Item 3: Workplan

CSHSS stated the intention of the workplan is for it to be a living document, taking stock of actions and improvements as well as future plans. CSHSS requested feedback on the definitions section of the document.

General agreement in the room that the plan was too complex, and that the group would prefer to see a simpler high level document. Level of detail is more appropriate for something sitting under the high level outline. Teachers emphasized the importance of making the plan clear and actionable for schools to understand. CP added that it was important to upskill young people as well as school staff so they can be self-supporting after leaving school.

AE highlighted the importance of including a reference to building inclusive schools.

SM suggested making a diagram/logic model to give the plan a framework and visualize the interdependencies and offered to assist in the creation of a logic model.

Estyn has a remit to review school wellbeing next year and have developed a spec for defining successful school. MC offered to share this for it to be used as framework for the whole school approach (WSA).

SD noted that the WSA fits with Education in Wales: Our National mission and should reference this to create links to the wider Welsh Government education agenda.

Discussion proceeded on the distinction between whole school and whole system approach and how to ensure that we have one integrated approach. Agreement that there should be a distinction between what schools are expected to do and what help schools receive externally. Emphasis put on ensuring links between school and external support are strong. LN noted that MOM talks about a whole school approach within a whole system. CSE agreed that this was a good balance because it acknowledges that schools can't be expected to do it alone.

CS noted the importance of regional partnership boards (RPBs) to the success of the programme and the opportunities they pose for supporting the programme. She also noted the inclusion of a digital and technology strand and added that consideration should also be made to the wellbeing of teachers and school staff.

CSHSS suggested a piece of work examining what the RPBs were doing and how they can support the work of the programme, to be taken up either by this group or the stakeholder group at a future date.

LN emphasized importance of the skills and knowledge section and the mapping of existing provision to avoid duplication. JB mentioned that TfCYP has carried out a mapping exercise previously. General agreement that this is a good starting point, and that the mapping exercise should go towards developing a menu of provision, with guidance provided about which provision is best for different situations.

JB noted that connectivity is crucial and suggested that the workplan strengthen its references to connectivity.

AE noted the inclusion of the role of parents and suggested this could be two-way to help CYP understand their parents' mental health as one as vice versa.

SHRN infrastructure has the potential to support the work of the programme, identifying innovation in the system and developing principles to evaluate process.

MC suggested workplan be ordered to put schools first and work outward from there to reflect the whole school within whole system approach.

Group discussed the importance of relationships and whether they were reflected in the workplan, as well as explicit links to the wider education reform agenda. Education stakeholders noted that a number of key networks were not captured and that there was limited discussion of culture. Suggestion that the Estyn work could be integrated here.

Action 4: Amend workplan to reflect discussion with assistance of SM and MC and recirculate.

Item 4: Stakeholder reference group

LN noted that although there are benefits to keeping the group small, it needs to capture the diversity of stakeholders and should include clinical psychology, youth work, union reps, Welsh language and academic stakeholders. Discussion was had about the best way to secure union representation. CSHSS suggested asking the TUC to nominate someone.

CS requested clarity on the remit for the group, specifically the remit that members should promote and embed the work of the WSA programme. CSE agreed that to modify this to make expectations clear.

Further discussion of group membership: other suggestions were additional third sector members, a stronger practitioner voice and more education stakeholders, youth services, sports and making sure excluded groups had a voice.

RC noted there are a number of other stakeholder networks that we can tap into in addition to this purpose-built group.

Action 5: Amend ToR to make remit clearer and recirculate

Action 6: Extend membership list to include a wider range of stakeholders as noted during discussion, including CSE seeking nomination from TUC, and recirculate.

Item 5: Children and young people's engagement

General feeling that the more children and young people (CYP) engagement the better and that a coproduction model was a great benefit both to the programme and to the young people (YP) involved in it. Main concern related to getting a diversity of voices on board. Discussion of other groups of YP that already exist and could be used to get a wider range of voices such as school councils and wellbeing groups and youth health boards. This was suggested as a more effective

method than convening a separate youth stakeholder group for the WSA programme. In terms of what to engage YP on, it was felt important to engage on specific issues and questions as opposed to broader/vaguer concerns as this is generally more meaningful and interesting for YP to work on.

SM said that SHRN is setting up a YP coproduction network and would be happy to work with Welsh Government on this.

General discussion of consultation and data-gathering serving to highlight the range of data already being collected which can be used to support CYP engagement.

Action 7: Revise CYP engagement strategy to take full advantage of existing groups and networks.

Item 6: papers to note and AOB

Communications strategy and literature review of WSA noted.

No additional business raised. Next meeting agreed for late February 2019 with invites to be sent out before Christmas 2018.

Meeting closed 11:10am.